

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

|   |   |  |                       |
|---|---|--|-----------------------|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>600784PWO  | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>   |  | See Form PCT/IPEA/416 |
| International application No.<br>PCT/GB2004/004092  | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>24.09.2004  | Priority date (day/month/year)<br>24.09.2003 |                       |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC<br>A61J3/10, B30B11/02   |   |  |                       |
| <p>Applicant<br/><b>BIOPROGRESS TECHNOLOGY LIMITED et al.</b></p>   |   |  |                       |
| <p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</li> </ul> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</i></p> |   |  |                       |
| <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</li> </ul>   |   |  |                       |
| Date of submission of the demand<br>12.04.2005  | Date of completion of this report<br>18.08.2005   |  |                       |
| Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:<br><br>European Patent Office<br>D-80298 Munich<br>Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d<br>Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465  | Authorized Officer<br>De Terlizzi, M<br>Telephone No. +49 89 2399-<br> |  |                       |

20040922

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.  
PCT/GB2004/004092

INT20040922 10 23 MAR 2006

**Box No. I Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
  - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
    - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
    - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
    - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements\*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

**Description, Pages**



1-14 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-11 as originally filed

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/11-11/11 as originally filed

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
  - the description, pages
  - the claims, Nos.
  - the drawings, sheets/figs
  - the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
  - the description, pages
  - the claims, Nos.
  - the drawings, sheets/figs
  - the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/GB2004/004092

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

|                               |             |      |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Novelty (N)                   | Yes: Claims |      |
|                               | No: Claims  | 1-11 |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Yes: Claims |      |
|                               | No: Claims  | 1-11 |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims | 1-11 |
|                               | No: Claims  |      |

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):**

**see separate sheet**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY,  
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: FR-A-2 607 066 (FREUND PIERRE) 27 May 1988 (1988-05-27)

1. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1 and 9 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

The document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

Apparatus for compacting powder comprising:

- a compaction chamber (10, figure 2d),
- dosing means (4,5) adapted to dispense a powder into the compaction chamber (10),
- a powder supply (1),

wherein:

- the dosing means (4,5) comprises a plurality of juxtaposed components between which a dosing cavity (see figures 2c, 2d) is formed for receiving powder from the powder supply and dispensing it to the compaction chamber (10)
- the volume and the cross-sectional area of the cavity are variable by adjustment of the positions of the juxtaposed components (4,5, see figures 2c,2d)
- the internal spaces of the apparatus through which the powder passes from the supply to the compaction chamber comprise a closed system (page 3, line 35 to page 4, line 2)

2. The same reasoning applies, mutatis mutandis, to the subject-matter of the corresponding independent claim 10, which therefore is also considered not new.
3. Dependent claims 2 to 8 and 11 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty, see document D1 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report.